

DARING BANK ROBBERY; EMPLOYEE GAGGED, BOUND AND AFTERWARDS SHOT

Two Unknown Men Enter Bank of Nova Scotia at Jasper and First Shortly After Midnight.—Ledger Keeper Clare West Looks Up From His Books into the Muzzle of a Revolver.

ROBBERS PREPARE TO BLOW UP SAFE

Are Alarmed by West, Who Has Partially Freed Himself.—He Opens Fire on Them With Revolver He Has Secured.

—Is Wounded in Return and the Robbers Escape.

One of the most daring attempted bank robberies ever reported in the west took place at the Bank of Nova Scotia First Street and Jasper at 12 m. this morning, when two men, one of them masked, held up ledger keeper Clare West at the counter of a gun, bound his hand and foot, and were on the point of attempting to blow up the safe when the two intruders, after a fusillade of shots from the ledgers, knew that he had succeeded in getting out.

Then at that early hour the streets were not by any means deserted, and the few hundred pedestrians were wending their way homeward along Jasper street, when a number of people were actually standing on the sidewalk, talking to each other, outside the bank, at the time.

The two men, it appears, evidently came from Jasper, one of the bank unmasked, with his gun, was boldly engaged at the time at the ledger desk, taunting his books. He was armed to the teeth, and a startled exclamation as he found himself surrounded by a crowd of people.

There were two men, the one holding the gun was masked, and curiously enough, to keep quiet. West, who held a revolver, a dexterous looking weapon only a foot or two away held with a firm grip by a man in a dark suit, was looking at the sightless movement of his victim. West had nothing to do but to obey.

Ordered Lights Out.
"I like you to turn the lights out," he said to West, "so that we may pass undetected but with a grim menace in his tone, which caused West to promptly obey the implied order.

With his hands held behind his back, he was bound with a handkerchief round his head and over the mouth. The two men asked him if he had any money. He had, but he didn't tell them so. They picked up his coat, and the ledger papers, which was his month's salary of \$45, which he had received the day before. They promptly confiscated that, and also took his watch.

One of them asked him if he had any money. He had, but he didn't tell them so. They picked up his coat, and the ledger papers, which was his month's salary of \$45, which he had received the day before. They promptly confiscated that, and also took his watch.

Intended to Blow Up Safe.
Leaving him lying on the floor, they then took him up to the safe, and all the old coats they could find in the darkness, and took them to the vault, and then, with a view to their plan to blow up the safe, their object in securing the coats being to use them as a shield to protect their possession of nitro-silicene. West could see the flash of their spot-light from the outside.

Got On Hand Party Fresh.
Macdonald informed the Bulletin that the two men, who were bound, he states, he had the presence of mind to push his revolver back in his pocket, and when he did so away he found his arms had a certain amount of freedom. As soon as he was free, he had the revolver out, and firmly gripped it, and, as he was not so far away as he had been, he was enabled to get his right hand partially free.

Then, turning over with some difficulty on his back, he was able to get the gun out of his pocket only a few feet away, where a revolver is always kept in a safe. He had the revolver in his right hand, he reached a point where he could reach the men with the gun.

Opened Fire on Robbers.
He must have made some noise in doing this for the men, evidently be-

coming suspicious, started to run towards him. Before they could reach him, however, he fired four shots in their direction. None of them hit, but one of the men, who was one of the men levelled a gun and fired, the bullet striking West in the right forearm, and, of course, completely disabled him.

Then the hold-up men, fearing that the note of the shooting would give them away, started to break the vault, and, after a minute or two, the police rushed in at the door, and, after a short struggle, the two men were captured.

The police made an examination of the vault, and found that the two men had taken \$450.

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West is only 22 years of age and had been with the bank for only a few months. He was employed at the bank of Nova Scotia only about three months ago, and was employed with the bank in October in Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

Mr. Corrigan's Story.
"I am a young fellow," said Mr. West, "and I have no confidence in the safety of my life, and I am very much afraid of what will happen to me if I am captured."

A curious and most unusual

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FIRST G.T.P. THROUGH SPECIAL EN ROUTE HERE FROM TORONTO.

Toronto, Jan. 27.—The first G.T.P. through special train to the west, bound for Jasper, the West, passed through the Toronto station today. It left Toronto at 12 m. and arrived at Toronto at noon.

After reaching North Bay,

Ontario, the train went on to

Montreal, Quebec, and

